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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/623,430	07/18/2003	Blair A. Sandberg	03-10034	4069

36212 7590 01/13/2004

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EXAMINER

RICCI, JOHN A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3712

DATE MAILED: 01/13/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/623,430

Applicant(s)

SANDBERG, BLAIR A.

Examiner

John Ricci

Art Unit

3712

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 30-37 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,5,6,9,11,12,15,16,19-23 and 25-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2,4,7,8,10,13,14,17,18,24,28 and 29 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Art Unit: 3712

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 9, 11, 12, 15, & 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Leven 5,273,022.

Leven shows a bow stabilizer including an elongated hollow rod 39, having a near end 40 for attachment to a bow, and a distal end having attached weights 46, 48, 50. Although Leven does not specify the exact weights of the rod and weights, he describes the rod as light weight (column 4, lines 32-34), and the weights appear relatively heavy, so the center of gravity of the rod-weight assembly would most likely be within 25 percent of the length from the distal end of the rod.

* * * * *

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been

Art Unit: 3712

obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 19-23, & 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Villa et al 5,390,656.

Villa shows a bow stabilizer including an elongated hollow rod 20 having a near end 24 for attachment to a bow, a distal end 26, and a weight 50 attached at the distal end. Although Villa does not specify the natural frequency of the first bending mode of the stabilizer, he points out that the frequency can be adjusted to match the vibrational characteristics of the bow, so it will more effectively absorb vibrations when the bow is fired, see column 2, lines 31-42; column 4, lines 40-49. If one had a bow with a vibration frequency of 20 Hz or 40 Hz, one would be able to adjust the stabilizer of Villa to match those frequencies. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to adjust the stabilizer of Villa to a frequency of at least 20 Hz or 40 Hz.

* * * * *

Claims 30-37 are allowed.

Claims 2, 4, 7, 8, 10, 13, 14, 17, 18, 24, 28, & 29 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form

Art Unit: 3712

including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The prior art does not disclose a bow stabilizer including an elongated member having a near end for attachment to the bow, and a distal end; and a weight attached at the distal end, the weight having a mass which is at least 1.2 times the mass of the elongated member.

* * * * *

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

* * * * *

This letter was prepared by Examiner John Ricci, who can be reached at:

Voice: 703-308-4751

Fax: Use 703-872-9306 for papers to be delivered directly to the mail room, like formal amendments and responses, change of address, power of attorney, petitions.

Art Unit: 3712

Use 703-783-0439 for papers to be delivered directly to the Examiner, like informal or proposed responses for discussion, or notes in preparation for an interview.

Response by Fax is encouraged to reduce mail processing time. Please don't send duplicate papers by mail and Fax.

My supervisor is Derris Banks, 703-308-1745.

PTO main switchboard: 800-786-9199.

Visit our Web site at www.uspto.gov.

John Ricci

**JOHN RICCI
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 3712**